



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE MATERIEL COMMAND  
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE OHIO

FAR 17  
C. PIPKIN  
64-10

4 Oct 02

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

FROM: HQ AFMC/PK  
4375 Chidlaw Rd, S208  
Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5001

SUBJECT: Economy Act Determinations and Findings Approval Authority

1. Recently SAF/AQC received a question from the field regarding the Economy Act. Specifically, the question was whether the elimination of AFFARS 5317.5 deleted the requirement to seek SES, flag or general officer approval. This requirement still exists. Reference DFARS 217.5000 and specifically DoDI 4000.19, paragraph 4.4. We must ensure the contracting workforce understands its validity. Please spread the word.
2. We will incorporate this direction in a future addition to the AFMC/PK Policy Vault, as well as updating the PKV webpage.
3. Should you require any assistance, our POC is Capt Mark Woodard at HQ AFMC/PKV, (937) 257-4657 or mark.woodard@wpafb.af.mil.

JEFFREY P. PARSONS  
Colonel, USAF  
Director of Contracting

Attachment:  
25 Sep 02 Economy Act D&F Q&A

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(25 Sep 02) **Economy Act Determination and Findings**

Recently we've received questions concerning the requirement for a D&F under the Economy Act to be approved by an SES, flag or a General officer. Here is how we answered the question and thought it may help in your respective offices.

**Question:** Are D&Fs still required for acquisitions made through other agencies using the Economy Act as authority? If yes, what is the appropriate level of approval?

**Answer:** The recent elimination of AFFARS 5317.5 did not eliminate the need for approval of the D&F by an SES, flag or general officer.

FAR 17.503 implements The Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 by requiring purchases under the Economy Act be approved in advance by the contracting officer of the requesting agency or by another official designated by the agency head.

DFARS Subpart 17.5 states "...the procedures in FAR Subpart 17.5, this subpart, and DODI 4000.19 apply to all purchases, except micro-purchases, made for DOD by another agency".

The language in DODI 4000.19, paragraph 4.4, requires D&F approval by "...the head of the major organizational unit ordering the support... This authority may be delegated, although designees may not be lower than Senior Executive Service, Flag, or General Officer." For the Air Force and other DoD components, this is the "another official designated by the agency head" contemplated in FAR 17.503.

Therefore, we did not eliminate nor intend to de-emphasize the FAR, DFARS, or DODI requirements or approval authorities when the language was removed from the AFFARS. The requirement remains that Economy Act D&Fs must be approved at the flag officer level for all purchases except micro-purchases.

A D&F template for Economy Act transactions is in the Contracting Toolkit at:  
<http://www.safaq.hq.af.mil/contracting/toolkit/part17/word/5317economyact.doc>.  
Please remember that Toolkit documents are for guidance only.

Please refer questions on the Economy Act to our action officer, Mr J.P. McCusker at (703) 588-7031 or DSN 425-7031.